

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Bruce Johnson et al.
Serial No.: 10/755,601
Filed: January 12, 2004
Docket No.: 200311317-1
Title: PRINTER COMPONENT

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Office Action mailed September 23, 2005. Claims 1-23 and 26-28 were rejected. Claims 24 and 25 have been objected to. With this Response, claims 4, 10, 22, and 24 have been cancelled, claims 1, 5, 9, 11-14, 20, 21, and 25 have been amended, and claim 29 has been added. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-21, 23, and 25-29 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4-14, 16-23, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,351,621 ("Richards"). Claims 1, 3, 6-9, 12, 17, 18, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0125165 ("Croley"). Applicants submit that Richards and Croley fail to teach or suggest the invention of amended independent claims 1, 9, 12, and 21.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter from claim 24. Amended claim 1 recites **wherein the memory is configured to store a plurality of unique identifiers, with each unique identifier representing a different printer to which the interface has been electrically coupled, and wherein the memory is configured to communicate with a controller for determining if the printer component has been installed in the an unauthorized printer.**

Claim 9 has also been amended to include the allowable subject matter from claim 24. Amended claim 9 recites **means for storing a plurality of unique identifiers, with each unique identifier representing a different printer to which the printer component has been electrically coupled for determining if the printer component has been installed in an unauthorized printer.**

Claim 12 has also been amended to include the allowable subject matter from claim 24. Amended claim 12 recites **wherein the printer is configured for reading a plurality of unique identifiers from the component memory for determining if the printer component has been installed in an unauthorized printer.**

Claim 21 has been amended to rewrite claim 24 in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Amended claim 21 recites

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determining if the printer component has been installed in an unauthorized printer by checking a plurality of unique identifiers stored in the memory of the printer component to determine if one of the unique identifiers indicates an unauthorized printer.

Richards and Croley fail to teach or suggest these claim limitations.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1, 9, 12, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2, 3, 5-8, 11, 13, 14, 16-20, 23, 26, and 27 further define patentably distinct claim 1, 9, 12, or 21. Accordingly, Applicants believe these dependent claims are also allowable over the cited references. Allowance of claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-14, 16-21, 23, 26, and 27 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 15 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Richards et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,930,553 ("Hirst").

Dependent claims 15 and 28 further define patentably distinct claim 12 or 21. Accordingly, Applicants believe these dependent claims are also allowable over the cited references. Allowance of claims 15 and 28 is respectfully requested.

Added Claim

Claim 29 has been added. Applicants believe added claim 29 is also allowable over the cited references. Allowance of claim 29 is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 24 and 25 for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant agrees with the Examiner's conclusions regarding patentability without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, applicant believes that the claims are allowable because prior art fails to teach, anticipate or render obvious the invention as claimed, independent of how the invention is paraphrased.

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Claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as amended claim 21. Dependent claim 25 further defines patentably distinct claim 21. Accordingly, Applicants believe this dependent claim is also allowable over the cited references. Allowance of claim 25 is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-21, 23, and 25-29 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-21, 23, and 25-29 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Nathan Rieth at Telephone No. (208) 396-5287, Facsimile No. (208) 396-3958 or Steven E. Dicke at Telephone No. (612) 573-2002, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on this 20 day of October, 2005.

By Steven E. Dicke
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